IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	: Roger et al.	Art Unit	: 3738
Serial No.	: 09/657,379	Examiner	: Willse, D.
Filed	: September 8, 2000		
Title	: METHOD FOR SOFT TISSUE RECONSTRUCTION		

BOX AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

RESPONSE

In response to the examiner's action mailed July 17, 2002, please amend the application as follows:

In the specification:

Replace the title beginning at page 1, line 1, with the following:

--Method for Soft Tissue Reconstruction--

Remarks

Applicants have amended the title of the application as set forth above.

The Examiner has rejected claims 18-31 for obviousness-type double patenting over the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,235,057. Applicants are willing to file a terminal disclaimer to satisfy that rejection.

The Examiner has rejected claims 18, 20, 22, 23 and 25 as anticipated by Kuriwaka, and claims 19, 21, 26, 27 and 29 as obvious over Kuriwaka. The Examiner states:

> In the Kuriwaka invention, the insertion of the fixation screw device to engage the natural tendon or ligament of the graft and to press the natural tendon or ligament directly and firmly against a sidewall of a hole in a bone is carried out in two steps. The examiner fails to see how the language of instant claim 18, lines 5-7, necessitates a *single* act or maneuver. Even if claim 18 were so limited, it would have been an obvious step backward, since Kuriwaka is aware of the prior art method of using a *single* screw (Figure 4), and, like the Applicant, modifies